

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Media Alert

For Immediate Release: Monday, May 9, 2011

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WORKING DAYS, OVERNIGHTS AS WEATHER PERMITS I-85 EXPRESS LANES IN DEKALB AND GWINNETT

DULUTH, Ga. – The existing High Occupancy Vehicle lanes on Interstate 85 will continue in operation allowing vehicles with 2 or more people, motorcycles and alternate fuel vehicles to use the lanes until the Express Lane System is opened. Please visit www.georgiatolls.com for additional information.

As weather permits, lane closures are scheduled to occur during the day and overnight on the Interstate 85 Express Lanes project in DeKalb and Gwinnett Counties.

<u>Daytime work</u> will occur this week and work hours northbound are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and southbound work hours at from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., between peak commute hours.

<u>Monday,9 th</u> work will occur on I-85 north and south closing the left lane or HOV lane from Steve Reynolds Blvd to Indian Trail Road

<u>Tuesday</u>, <u>10th</u> work will occur on I-85 north and south closing the left lane or HOV lane from Steve Reynolds Blvd to south of Indian Trail Road and a second work zone will occur from Indian Trail Road for one mile, south of SR 378/Beaver Ruin Road. A third work zone is planned on the Access Road/Ramp from I 85 south to Chamblee Tucker Road

<u>Wednesday, 11th</u> work will occur on I-85 north and south closing the left lane or HOV lane from Steve Reynolds Blvd to Indian Trail Road and a second work zone will be in place on the access road/ramp from I 85 south from Sugarloaf Parkway to Old Peachtree Road

The work plan requires lane closures northbound and southbound <u>weeknights</u>. Both directions of the High Occupancy Vehicle lane or inside lane will close overnight_at these locations if weather permits. Northbound lane closures will begin at 10 p.m. and continue overnight to 5 a.m. the next day. Southbound lane closures will begin at 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. the next day.

<u>Monday, 9th</u> for work along the median wall from Northcrest Road to one mile south of SR 140/Jimmy Carter Blvd

<u>Tuesday</u>, 10th for work along the median wall from Northcrest Road to one mile south of SR 140/Jimmy Carter Blvd and a second work zone along SR 16 westbound only from I-85 to Sugarloaf Parkway

<u>Wednesday, 11th</u> for work along the median wall from Chamblee Tucker Road to Northcrest Road

<u>Thursday</u>, 12th for work along the median wall from Chamblee Tucker Road to Northcrest Road and a second work zone from SR 378/Beaver Ruin Road to Steve Reynolds Blvd

No weekend long lane closures are planned for the weekend of May 13th through 15th.

The I-85 Express Lanes Project includes installation of 16 miles of fiber and signage along Interstate Highway 85 between Chamblee Tucker Road and Old Peachtree Road and along State Route 316 between I-85 and Riverside Parkway.

When completed, registered transit buses, motorcycles, alternative fueled vehicles and vehicles with three or more passengers will be allowed to use the inside (left) HOT lane for free, while single- and double-occupant vehicles will be allowed to use the lane if they choose to pay a variably priced toll.

Motorists can access real-time, statewide, route-specific information on accidents, road work, traffic and weather conditions through **Georgia 511** - a free phone, web, and mobile service. By dialing 511, callers also can transfer to operators 24 hours a day to report incidents or request assistance. The system can be used to access transit providers, major airports, rideshare organizations, tourism information and 511 systems in surrounding states. Additionally, 511 is available online or as a hybrid solution via a free download for your smart phone. Georgia DOT partners with sponsors for assistance in funding 511, preserving tax dollars and helping sustain critical services. For more information about 511, its mobile application download, or to learn how to become a sponsor, visit www.511ga.org.

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